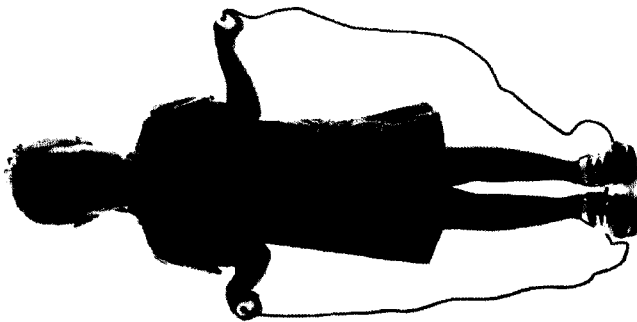
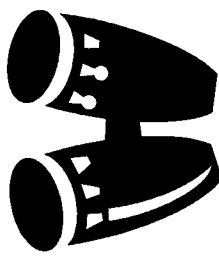


# Quality Care for Quality Kids

Governor Doyle's Proposed  
Child Care Quality Rating  
System for Wisconsin



Department of Workforce  
Development (DWD)





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**Quality Care for Quality Kids  
Department of Workforce Development  
Fact Sheet  
March, 2005**

**Quality Care for Quality Kids (QCQK)** will-for the first time-rate the quality of child care providers; tie subsidy reimbursement rates to quality levels; and use quality ratings to offer parents more information to make the best possible child care choice:

- **Ensuring all families have access to high quality child care** programs through facilitating parent access to information about high quality programs and why their child care choice matters, such as Child Care Resource and Referral. Parents will have access to information about the quality of child care and how to select a quality program that through a web site that will be determined. You can access the QCQK Task Force report at: <http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=1736&locid=19>
- **Ensure access to child care for low-income working families** – we are committed to insuring full funding of Wisconsin Shares with no waiting list.
- **Increase Accountability for Wisconsin Shares** – this new effort will tie higher rates of reimbursement to programs that rate higher to insure that Wisconsin's investment in this key program is directed at better quality child care; it will also offer child care providers key incentives to improve the quality of their program with the eventual goal of higher quality for all programs.
- **Invest in the child care infrastructure** that is essential for helping child care programs improve their quality. Building the infrastructure will involve consolidating all programs that support child care under DWD; investment in assessments that will be needed to implement the Quality Care for Quality Kids program; system improvements, including consolidation of data systems; training and technical assistance for child care providers to help them improve the quality of their program, and public information about the new system.

**Why invest early in high quality care for young children? We are following good advice.**

**James Heckman, Ph.D., Economist and Nobel Laureate from the University of Chicago tells us:**

*"The real question is how to use available funds wisely. The best evidence supports the policy prescription: invest in the very young." A growing body of evidence underscores his conclusion including studies of the Federal Reserve Bank that show that every dollar invested yields seven or more dollars in future savings to society. These costs are realized in terms of less crime, better educational outcomes and greater success in life for children who receive high quality education early.*

**Robert Dugger, Managing Partner of Tudor Investment Group, an international investment firm, and current co-chair of the Committee for Economic Development's Invest in Kids Working Group. His research tells us that:**

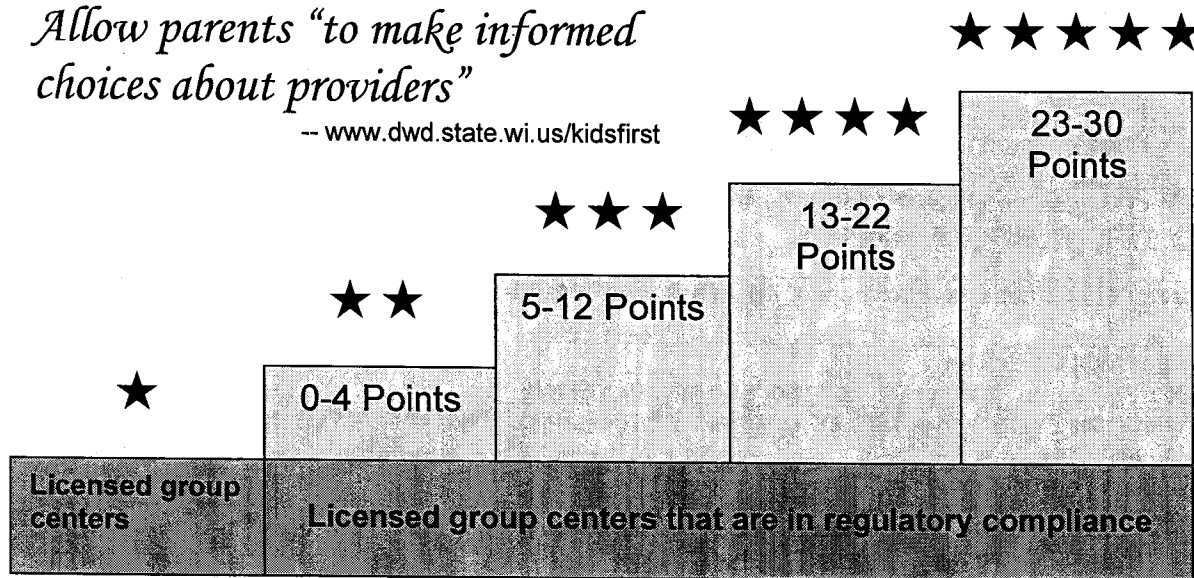
*"A nation that puts kids first thinks long-term. It has surer moral footing, less crime, stronger economic growth, a healthier environment and a greater ability to lead others by example."*

## Quality Counts for Kids Task Force Recommended Model for Group Child Care Centers

- 1 Star Rating:** The center is licensed **AND** out of compliance with regulatory standards.  
**2 Star Rating:** The center is licensed, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, **AND** earns 0-4 quality indicator points.  
**3 Star Rating:** The center is licensed, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, **AND** earns 5-12 quality indicator points.  
**4 Star Rating:** The center is licensed, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, **AND** earns 13-22 quality indicator points.  
**5 Star Rating:** The center is licensed, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, **AND** earns 23-30 quality indicator points.

*Allow parents "to make informed choices about providers"*

-- [www.dwd.state.wi.us/kidsfirst](http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/kidsfirst)



Four Categories for Earning Points	
Category	Possible Points
Teacher Qualifications	0 - 7
Director Qualifications	0 - 7
Learning Environment and Curriculum	0 - 10
Professional Practices	0 - 6
<b>Total</b>	<b>0 - 30</b>

*Encourage providers "to go above and beyond the basic standards of quality"*

-- Governor Jim Doyle

## How to Earn Points in Group Child Care Centers

A licensed center receives only one star if it is not in regulatory compliance; otherwise, its total number of points determines its number of stars. To calculate the total points, add the points from each category of four categories. For non-cumulative categories, use the points only from the highest qualification the program attains. For cumulative categories, add all the points for which the program qualifies (note: no more than the maximum points can be earned in any category).

<b>Teacher Qualifications</b> (Maximum of 7 points, non-cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
25% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with 6 or more early childhood education credits or a Child Development Associate (CDA)	1
50% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with 6 or more early childhood education credits or a CDA	2
25% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with an Associate degree related to early childhood education or a Bachelor's degree	3
100% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with 6 or more early childhood education credits or a CDA	4
50% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with an Associate degree related to early childhood education or a Bachelor's degree	5
100% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with an Associate degree related to early childhood education or a Bachelor's degree	6
100% of the classrooms in the center have a teacher with a Bachelor's degree related to early childhood education (or higher)	7

<b>Director Qualifications</b> (Maximum of 7 points, non-cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
Administrator Credential	1
Associate Degree (related) OR Bachelor's Degree (unrelated)	3
Administrator Credential AND EITHER Associate Degree (related) OR Bachelor's Degree (unrelated)	4
Bachelor's Degree (related)	5
Bachelor's Degree (related) AND Administrator Credential	6
Graduate Degree (related)	7

<b>Learning Environment and Curriculum</b> (Maximum of 10 points, cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
Each classroom has at least 5 well equipped, clearly defined learning centers	2
Each classroom has written weekly lesson plans with 15 minutes of reading/early literacy daily	2
The center uses a curriculum aligned with Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards	2
Documented annual use of quality improvement assessment process, using environment rating scales, accreditation self-study, or other approved methods, with a written improvement plan	2
The preceding quality improvement assessment process administered by an outside, trained and reliable entity	1
Accreditation (NAEYC, NSACA, City of Madison, Head Start Performance Standards)	10

<b>Professional Practices</b> (Maximum of 6 points, cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
Business Practices – includes professional development opportunities, and a professional development plan, Child Care Food Program participation	2
Provider/Staff Benefits – includes use of Model Work Standards, salary scale, provider and staff benefits, health care, paid vacation	2
Parental Involvement – includes parent newsletters, parent/provider conferences	2

# Example 2: Licensed Group Center

★ 70 children (5 on subsidy)

enrolled in 6 classrooms

★ 10 teachers

- ◆ 8 have taken the courses required by licensing

- ◆ 2 have 6 related credits

★ Each classroom has a weekly lesson plan with 15 minutes of reading daily

Loss of \$5 per week (\$260 per year)

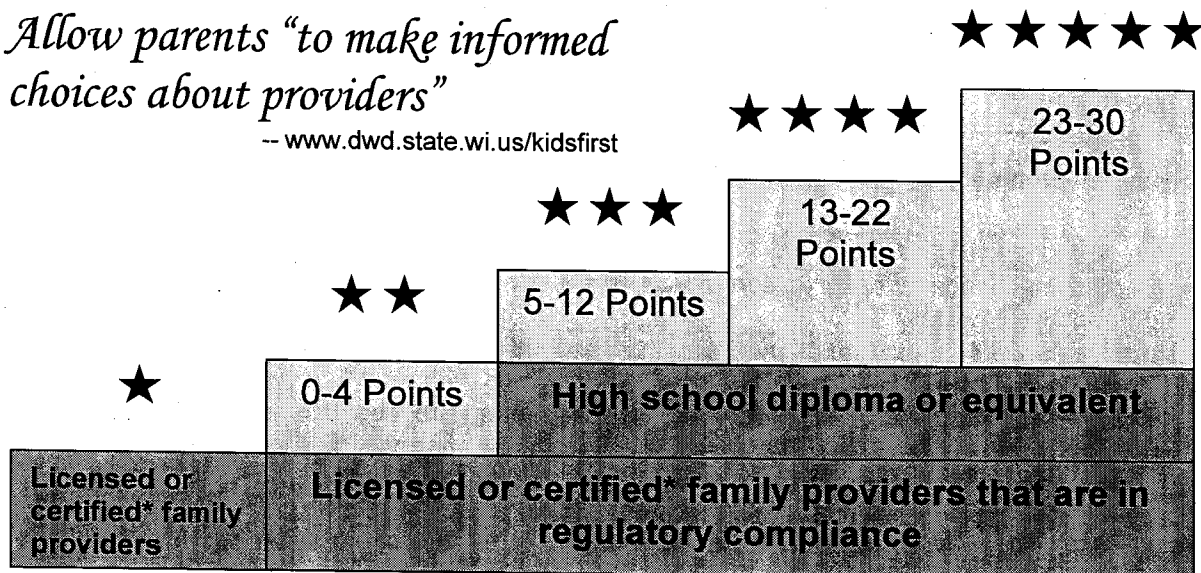
Category	Points Earned
Teacher qualifications	1
Director qualifications	0
Learning environment and curriculum	2
Professional practices	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Stars</b>	<b>★★</b>

## Quality Counts for Kids Task Force Recommended Model for Family Child Care Programs

- 1 Star Rating:** The center is licensed or certified **AND** out of compliance with regulatory standards.
- 2 Star Rating:** The center is licensed or certified, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, **AND** earns 0-4 quality indicator points.
- 3 Star Rating:** The center is licensed or regularly certified, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, the provider has a high school diploma or equivalent, **AND** earns 5-12 quality indicator points.
- 4 Star Rating:** The center is licensed or regularly certified, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, the provider has a high school diploma or equivalent, **AND** earns 13-22 quality indicator points.
- 5 Star Rating:** The center is licensed or regularly certified, meets the standard for regulatory compliance, the provider has a high school diploma or equivalent, **AND** earns 23-30 quality indicator points.

*Allow parents "to make informed choices about providers"*

-- [www.dwd.state.wi.us/kidsfirst](http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/kidsfirst)



\* At the November 15, 2004 Task Force Meeting the issue of including Provisionally Certified Providers in the Quality Indicator Rating System was reviewed. It was determined that all regulated providers, including Provisionally Certified Providers will be included in the Quality Rating Scale and Tiered Reimbursement Structure.

Three Categories for Earning Points	
Category	Possible Points
Family Child Care Provider Qualifications	0 - 14
Learning Environment and Curriculum	0 - 10
Professional Practices	0 - 6
<b>Total</b>	<b>0 - 30</b>

*Encourage providers "to go above and beyond the basic standards of quality"*

-- Governor Jim Doyle

## How to Earn Points in Family Child Care Programs

For providers that are in regulatory compliance and have a high school diploma or its equivalent, the total points determine the number of stars. To calculate the total points, add the points from each category. For the provider qualifications, use the points only from the highest qualification to which the provider attains. For all other cumulative categories, add all the points for which the program qualifies (note: no more than the maximum points can be earned in any category).

<b>Family Child Care Provider Qualifications</b> (Maximum of 14 points, non-cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
Child Development Associate(CDA) <b>OR</b> 6 credits related to early childhood education (ECE)	1
Infant-Toddler Credential	3
Administrator Credential	4
Related Associate Degree (ECE) <b>OR</b> Unrelated Bachelor's Degree (non-ECE)	7
CDA <b>AND EITHER</b> Related Associate Degree (ECE) <b>OR</b> Unrelated Bachelor's Degree (non-ECE)	8
Credential (Infant Toddler or Administrator) <b>AND EITHER</b> Related Associate Degree (ECE) <b>OR</b> Unrelated Bachelor's Degree (non-ECE)	10
Related Bachelor's Degree or higher (ECE)	13
Related Bachelor's Degree or higher (ECE) <b>AND</b> Credential (Infant Toddler or Administrator)	14

<b>Learning Environment and Curriculum</b> (Maximum of 10 points, cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
Well equipped learning environment	2
The program has written weekly lesson plans that include 15 minutes of reading/early literacy daily	2
The program uses a curriculum aligned with the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards	2
Documented annual use of quality improvement assessment process, using environment rating scales, accreditation self-study, or other approved methods, with a written improvement plan	2
The preceding quality improvement assessment process administered by an outside, trained and reliable entity	1
Accreditation (National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC, City of Madison, Head Start Performance Standards)	10

<b>Professional Practices</b> (Maximum of 6 points, cumulative)	<b>Points</b>
Business Practices-Includes professional development opportunities, and a professional development plan, Child Care Food Program participation	2
Provider/Staff Benefits-Includes use of Model Work Standards, salary scale, provider and staff benefits, health care, paid vacation	2
Parental Involvement –Includes parent newsletters, parent/provider conferences	2

# Example 1: Family Child Care Program

- ★ The provider has the Infant-Toddler Credential
- ★ Provider has a well designed learning environment
- ★ Provider participates in the Food Program
- ★ Provider has outstanding parent involvement

Category	Points Earned
Provider qualifications	3
Learning environment and curriculum	2
Professional practices	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Stars</b>	<b>★★★</b>

This provider would receive the same reimbursement as in the current system



# How Would Payments Change Under the Tiered Reimbursement System?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★	23-30 Points	+ 25%
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	13-22 Points	+ 10%
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	5-12 Points	No Change
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	0-4 Points	- 5%
★	Regulated programs	- 30%
Regulated programs that are in regulatory compliance		